

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NIAMEY 00402 301501Z

53

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07

COME-00 DHA-02 /062 W

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P 301450Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2751

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NIAMEY 0402

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, ENRG,UAINV, NG

SUBJ: RUMORS OF ARRESTS

REF: STATE 22643; NIAMEY 4187; NIAMEY 194

1. WE AWARE OF NO POLITICAL ARRESTS SINCE SANI SIDO'S DEPARTURE, OTHER THAN THOSE REPORTED NIAMEY REFTELS AND ASSUME THAT LOUTOU'S RECENT ARREST IS DEVELOPMENT TO WHICH BISHOP REFERRING.

2. FYI. FORMER SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INFORMATION LOUTOU WAS WIDELY REGARDED AS VERY CLOSE TO SANI SIDO AND HAD IN FACT BEEN UNDER SOMETHING OF A CLTD EVER SINCE LAPER REMOVED FROM OFXTCE IN AUGUST. LOUTOU IS ALWAYS ALSO BEEN BISHOP'S MAIN NIGERIEN CONTACT, BUT WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT BISHOP FOUND LOUTOU RELATIVELY LESS EFFECTIVE ADVOCATE ON HIS BEHALF DURING HIS LAST TWO VISITS HERE, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN LATE 1975 AFTER SANI SIDO HAD BEEN REMOVED FROM SCENE. END FYI.

3. DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO CONVEY GIST OF NIAMEY 194 TO BISHOP AND ESSO.HECK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Authority: MartinML
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Disposition Remarks:
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